

A I R L I F T Dispatch

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Hanging out

Jonathon Levy and Christopher Brown stick to the "Velcro Wall" at the Family Fun Fest held last week near the base swimming pool. More than 2,000 people turned out for the event. See page 11 for more photos of the YOFAM 2000 picnic.

Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe

17 AS crew gets top honors at Air Tattoo

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

The 17th Airlift Squadron took home top honors as the best aerial demonstration at the Royal International Air Tattoo 2000, held at RAF Cottesmore, Rutland, England, July 22-23.

The award, called the Lockheed Martin Cannestra Trophy, is presented to the best flying demonstration by an overseas participant. The base had beat out a field of mostly fighter jets to win the prestigious honor, the first time any airlifter has won the competition.

Charleston performed a 10-minute aerial demonstration at Cottesmore and also had a static display aircraft on the ground for the crowds to observe. The C-17 drew a lot of attention as the United Kingdom prepares to lease four C-17s from Boeing. An aircrew and C-17 also flew to Farnborough and RAF Brize Norton, near Oxford, England, where they did seven aerial demonstrations July 24-31. The aircrews and aircraft returned here July 31.

"I know that the last eight times that someone has won this trophy, it's been a fighter unit. It's hard to compete against the fighters which often times can steal the show," said Maj. Ken Burch, one of the demo pilots from the 437th Operations Group standardization and evaluation office. The victory was especially meaningful for Burch since he leaves the Air Force this week to join the 315th Airlift Wing and United Airlines. The award allowed him to bring back the traveling trophy on his last "fini" flight.

Burch along with 17 AS RAF exchange pilot Squadron Leader Darrel Jacobs thrilled the crowds with an aerial demonstration on each day of the airshow. 15 AS RAF exchange pilot Squadron Leader Jeff Clark had also joined them on the trip. "At RAF Brize Norton, we had a lot of RAF senior officers and maintenance people tour the aircraft since that is where the C-17s will eventually be based in England. We spent about six hours showing the aircraft there."

Each of the three flying squadrons has only three aircraft commanders who are considered "demo" qualified, which requires them to be certified by the wing standardization and evaluation office. The scripted single ship C-17 demo profile consists of a shortfield take-off, a high speed pass at about 300 knots, a slow speed pass at about 105 knots, a 360 degree turn at show center, an assault landing at less than 1,500 feet with a full stop followed by a backing demonstration to show the aircraft's maneuverability.

"At Farnborough, the demo was especially impressive since we got to pull within 200 feet of the crowds and then backed into our parking space after the show. People actually started backing up when it looked like the jet might actually go into the crowd. Everyone was very impressed that such a large jet could be so maneuverable," Burch said. The crowd at Cottesmore was equally impressed with the size of the C-17.

The award at Cottesmore was a complete surprise to the aircrew. see **Tattoo**, page 3

Base trash-throwers cause CE problems

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Maj. Brian Ouellette, 437th Civil Engineering Squadron chief of operations, said he's tired of sending out his people to clean up after people who should know better.

The base bulk refuse dumpsters behind the base theater and Auto Skills Center have been filled with unauthorized trash for too long, said Ouellette.

"People are putting used oil, yard waste, tires, car parts, construction debris and anything else you can think of in the roll-off dumpsters," said Ouellette. "We recently moved the dumpsters out of these locations temporarily, and people just keep throwing junk on the ground where the dumpsters used to be."

"I've seen this problem for at least three years now, and I know it's been going on for longer than that," said Master Sgt. Kirk Battle Sr., 437 CES see **Trash**, page 3

Mission takes airman home

By Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Senior Airman Renee Morales proved that you can go home again when he helped support the revitalized multinational counter drug operation in Colombia.

Morales, a C-17 loadmaster, was one of five 17th Airlift Squadron aircrew members who transported troops from the 7th Special Forces Group from Pope see **Mission**, page 2